





FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

2017 JUN 12 AM 11:50

June 12, 2017 **SENSITIVE**

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Commission

THROUGH: Alec Palmer *AP*  
Staff Director

FROM: Patricia C. Orrock *PCO*  
Chief Compliance Officer

Debbie Chacona *DC*  
Assistant Staff Director  
Reports Analysis Division

BY: Kristin D. Roser *KR*/Ben Holly *BH*  
Reports Analysis Division  
Compliance Branch

SUBJECT: Reason To Believe Recommendation -2017 April Quarterly Report for the  
Administrative Fine Program

Attached is a list of political committees and their treasurers who failed to file the 2017 April Quarterly Report in accordance with 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a). The April Quarterly Report was due on April 15, 2017.

The committees listed in the attached RTB Circulation Report failed to file the report. In accordance with the schedule of civil money penalties for reports at 11 C.F.R. 111.43, these committees should be assessed the civil money penalties highlighted on the attached circulation report.

**Recommendation**

1. Find reason to believe that the political committees and their treasurers, in their official capacity, listed on the RTB Circulation Report violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalties would be the amounts indicated on the RTB Circulation Report.
2. Send the appropriate letters.

**Federal Election Commission**  
**Reason to Believe Circulation Report**  
**2017 APRIL-QUARTERLY Not Election Sensitive 04/15/2017 H\_S\_P**

AF#	Committee ID	Committee Name	Candidate Name	Treasurer	Threshold	PV	Receipt Date	Days Late	LOA	RTB Penalty
3329	C00590943	FIORE FOR CONGRESS	MICHELE FIORE	ANDREA SCHULEIN	\$176,143	0		Not Filed	\$176,143 (est)	\$7,641
3330	C00581314	TAYLOR GRIFFIN FOR CONGRESS	WILLIAM TAYLOR GRIFFIN	TAYLOR GRIFFIN	\$119,588	0		Not Filed	\$119,588 (est)	\$6,252

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of )  
)  
Reason To Believe Recommendation - 2017 )  
April Quarterly Report for the )  
Administrative Fine Program: )  
  
FIORE FOR CONGRESS, and ) AF# 3329  
SCHULEIN, ANDREA as treasurer; )  
TAYLOR GRIFFIN FOR CONGRESS, and ) AF# 3330  
GRIFFIN, TAYLOR as treasurer; )

CERTIFICATION

I, Dayna C. Brown, Secretary and Clerk of the Federal Election Commission,  
do hereby certify that on June 14, 2017 the Commission took the following actions on  
the Reason To Believe Recommendation - 2017 April Quarterly Report for the  
Administrative Fine Program as recommended in the Reports Analysis Division's  
Memorandum dated June 12, 2017, on the following committees:

AF#3329 Decided by a vote of 5-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that FIORE FOR  
CONGRESS, and SCHULEIN, ANDREA in her official capacity as treasurer violated 52  
U.S.C. 30104(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty

Federal Election Commission  
Certification for Administrative Fines  
June 14, 2017

Page 2

would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Goodman, Hunter, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#3330 Decided by a vote of 5-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that TAYLOR GRIFFIN FOR CONGRESS, and GRIFFIN, TAYLOR in his official capacity as treasurer violated 52 U.S.C. 30104(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Goodman, Hunter, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

Attest:

June 15, 2017

Date

Dayna C. Brown

Dayna C. Brown  
Secretary and Clerk of the Commission



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

June 15, 2017

Taylor Griffin, in official capacity as Treasurer  
Taylor Griffin for Congress  
P.O. Box 3451  
New Bern, NC 28564

C00581314  
AF#: 3330

Dear Mr. Griffin:

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), requires that your committee file an April Quarterly Report of Receipts and Disbursements every calendar year. This report, covering the period January 1, 2017 through March 31, 2017, shall be filed no later than April 15, 2017. 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a). Because records at the Federal Election Commission ("FEC") indicate that you did not file this report within thirty (30) days of the due date, the report is considered not filed for the purpose of calculating the civil money penalty. You should file this report if you have not already done so.

The Act permits the FEC to impose civil money penalties for violations of the reporting requirements of 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a). 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(4). On June 14, 2017, the FEC found that there is reason to believe ("RTB") that Taylor Griffin for Congress and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a) by failing to file timely this report on or before April 15, 2017. Based on the FEC's schedules of civil money penalties at 11 CFR § 111.43, the amount of your civil money penalty calculated at the RTB stage is \$6,252. Please see the attached copy of the Commission's administrative fine regulations at 11 CFR §§ 111.30-111.55. Attachment 1. The Commission's website contains further information about how the administrative fine program works and how the fines are calculated. See <http://www.fec.gov/af/af.shtml>. 11 CFR § 111.34. Your payment of \$6,252 is due within forty (40) days of the finding, or by July 24, 2017, and is based on these factors:

Sensitivity of Report: Not Election Sensitive  
Level of Activity: \$119,588  
Number of Days Late: Not Filed  
Number of Previous Civil Money Penalties Assessed: 0

At this juncture, the following courses of action are available to you:

**1. If You Choose to Challenge the RTB Finding and/or Civil Money Penalty**

If you should decide to challenge the RTB finding and/or calculated civil money penalty, you must submit a written response to the FEC's Office of Administrative Review, 999 E Street,

NW, Washington, DC 20463. Your response must include the AF# (found at the top of page 1 under your committee's identification number) and be received within forty (40) days of the Commission's RTB finding, or July 24, 2017. 11 CFR § 111.35(a). Your written response must include the reason(s) why you are challenging the RTB finding and/or calculated civil money penalty, and must include the factual basis supporting the reason(s) and supporting documentation. The FEC strongly encourages that documents be submitted in the form of affidavits or declarations. 11 CFR § 111.36(c).

The FEC will only consider challenges that are based on at least one of three grounds: (1) a factual error in the RTB finding; (2) miscalculation of the calculated civil money penalty by the FEC; or (3) your demonstrated use of best efforts to file in a timely manner when prevented from doing so by reasonably unforeseen circumstances that were beyond your control. 11 CFR § 111.35(b). In order for a challenge to be considered on the basis of best efforts, you must have filed the required report no later than 24 hours after the end of these reasonably unforeseen circumstances. *Id.* Examples of circumstances that will be considered reasonably unforeseen and beyond your control include, but are not limited to: (1) a failure of Commission computers or Commission-provided software despite your seeking technical assistance from Commission personnel and resources; (2) a widespread disruption of information transmissions over the Internet that is not caused by a failure of the Commission's or your computer systems or Internet service provider; and (3) severe weather or other disaster-related incident. 11 CFR § 111.35(c). Examples of circumstances that will not be considered reasonably unforeseen and beyond your control include, but are not limited to: (1) negligence; (2) delays caused by vendors or contractors; (3) treasurer and staff illness, inexperience or unavailability; (4) committee computer, software, or Internet service provider failures; (5) failure to know filing dates; and (6) failure to use filing software properly. 11 CFR § 111.35(d).

The "failure to raise an argument in a timely fashion during the administrative process shall be deemed a waiver" of your right to present such argument in a petition to the U.S. District Court under 52 U.S.C. § 30109. 11 CFR § 111.38.

If you intend to be represented by counsel, please advise the Office of Administrative Review. You should provide, in writing, the name, address and telephone number of your counsel and authorize counsel to receive notifications and communications relating to this challenge and imposition of the calculated civil money penalty.

## **2. If You Choose Not to Pay the Civil Money Penalty and Not to Submit a Challenge**

If you do not pay the calculated civil money penalty and do not submit a written response, the FEC will assume that the preceding factual allegations are true and make a final determination that Taylor Griffin for Congress and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a) and assess a civil money penalty.

Unpaid civil money penalties assessed through the Administrative Fine regulations will be subject to the Debt Collection Act of 1982 ("DCA"), as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, 31 U.S.C. § 3701 *et seq.* The FEC may take any and all appropriate action authorized and required by the DCA, as amended, including transfer to the U.S. Department of the Treasury for collection. 11 CFR § 111.51(a)(2).

**3. If You Choose to Pay the Civil Money Penalty**

If you should decide to pay the calculated civil money penalty, follow the payment instructions on page 4 of this letter. Upon receipt of your payment, the FEC will send you a final determination letter.

**NOTICE REGARDING PARTIAL PAYMENTS AND SETTLEMENT OFFERS**

**4. Partial Payments**

If you make a payment in an amount less than the calculated civil money penalty, the amount of your partial payment will be credited towards the full civil money penalty that the Commission assesses upon making a final determination.

**5. Settlement Offers**

Any offer to settle or compromise a debt owed to the Commission, including making a payment in an amount less than the calculated civil money penalty assessed or any restrictive endorsements contained on your check or money order or proposed in correspondence transmitted with your check or money order, will be rejected. Acceptance and deposit or cashing of such a restricted payment does not constitute acceptance of the settlement offer. Payments containing restrictive endorsements will be deposited and treated as a partial payment towards the civil money penalty that the Commission assesses upon making a final determination. All unpaid civil money penalty amounts remaining will be subject to the debt collection procedures set forth in Section 2, above.

This matter was generated based on information ascertained by the FEC in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities. 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(2). Unless you notify the FEC in writing that you wish the matter to be made public, it will remain confidential in accordance with 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(4)(B) and 30109(a)(12)(A) until it is placed on the public record at the conclusion of this matter in accordance with 11 CFR § 111.42.

As noted earlier, you may obtain additional information on the FEC's administrative fine program, including the final regulations, on the FEC's website at <http://www.fec.gov/af/af.shtml>. If you have questions regarding the payment of the calculated civil money penalty, please contact Ben Holly in the Reports Analysis Division at our toll free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5) or (202) 694-1130. If you have questions regarding the submission of a challenge, please contact the Office of Administrative Review at our toll free number (800) 424-9530 (press 0, then ext. 1660) or (202) 694-1660.

On behalf of the Commission,



Steven T. Walther  
Chair



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**ADMINISTRATIVE FINE REMITTANCE & PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS**

In accordance with the schedule of penalties at 11 CFR § 111.43, the amount of your civil money penalty calculated at RTB is \$6,252 for the 2017 April Quarterly Report.

You may remit payment by ACH withdrawal from your bank account, or by debit or credit card through Pay.gov, the federal government's secure portal for online collections. Visit [www.fec.gov/af/pay.shtml](http://www.fec.gov/af/pay.shtml) to be directed to Pay.gov's Administrative Fine Program Payment form.

This penalty may also be paid by check or money order, made payable to the Federal Election Commission. It should be sent by mail to:

Federal Election Commission  
P.O. Box 979058  
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

If you choose to send your payment by courier or overnight delivery, please send to:

U.S. Bank - Government Lockbox  
FEC #979058  
1005 Convention Plaza  
Attn: Government Lockbox, SL-MO-C2GL  
St. Louis, MO 63101

**PAYMENTS BY PERSONAL CHECK**

Personal checks will be converted into electronic funds transfers (EFTS). Your account will be electronically debited for the amount on your check, usually within 24 hours, and the debit will appear on your regular statement. We will destroy your original check and keep a copy of it. In case the EFT cannot be processed for technical reasons, you authorize us to process the copy in lieu of the original check. Should the EFT not be completed because of insufficient funds, we may try to make the transfer twice.

**PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN THE PORTION BELOW WITH YOUR PAYMENT**

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FOR: Taylor Griffin for Congress

FEC ID#: C00581314

AF#: 3330

PAYMENT DUE DATE: July 24, 2017

PAYMENT AMOUNT DUE: \$6,252



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RECEIVED  
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

2017 SEP 25 AM 11:34

September 25, 2017

MEMORANDUM

**SENSITIVE**

TO: The Commission

THROUGH: Alec Palmer *WHP*  
Staff Director

FROM: Patricia C. Orrock *PCO*  
Chief Compliance Officer

Debbie Chacona *DC*  
Assistant Staff Director  
Reports Analysis Division

BY: *KE* Kristin D. Roser/Ben Holly *BH*  
Reports Analysis Division  
Compliance Branch

SUBJECT: Administrative Fine Program – Final Determination Recommendation for the  
2017 April Quarterly Report

Attached is a list identifying political committees and their treasurers against which the Commission has found reason to believe (RTB) and assessed proposed civil money penalties calculated at RTB for failure to file or failure to timely file the 2017 April Quarterly Report. The committees have not paid the civil money penalties requested at RTB and have been given at least forty (40) days from the date of the Commission's RTB finding to remit payment.

In accordance with 11 CFR § 111.34 and 11 CFR § 111.40, the Commission shall send a final determination notice to those respondents that have not paid the civil money penalty.

For your information, one (1) committee disclosed a level of activity after the RTB finding, which would result in a lowered civil money penalty. An overview of this case has been provided below.

Fiore for Congress (AF 3329) filed a Termination Report after the RTB finding and disclosed an actual level of activity which would result in a lowered civil money penalty than that assessed at RTB. The committee disclosed total receipts and disbursements of \$4,027 (previously estimated to be \$176,143), thus the fine would be lowered from \$7,641 to \$407.

**SECRET**

- (1) Make a final determination that the political committees and their treasurers, in their official capacity, listed on the attached reports violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a) and assess the final civil money penalties so indicated.**
- (2) Send the appropriate letters.**

Federal Election Commission  
FD Circulation Report - Fine Not Paid  
2017 APRIL QUARTERLY Not Election Sensitive 04/15/2017 H\_S\_P

AF#	Committee Name	Candidate Name	Committee ID	Treasurer	Receipt Date	Days Late	LOA	PV	RTB Date	RTB Penalty	Days Since RTB	FD Penalty
3329	FIORÉ FOR CONGRESS	MICHELE FIORÉ	C00590943	ANDREA SCHULEIN	07/24/2017	Not Filed	\$4,027	1	08/14/2017	\$7,841	99	\$407
3330	TAYLOR GRIFFIN FOR CONGRESS	WILLIAM TAYLOR GRIFFIN	C00581314	TAYLOR GRIFFIN		Not Filed	\$119,588 (est)	1	08/14/2017	\$8,252	99	\$8,252

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of: )  
)  
Administrative Fine Program – Final )  
Determination Recommendation for the )  
2017 April Quarterly Report: )  
FIORE FOR CONGRESS, and ) AF# 3329  
SCHULEIN, ANDREA as treasurer; )  
TAYLOR GRIFFIN FOR CONGRESS, and ) AF# 3330  
GRIFFIN, TAYLOR as treasurer; )

CERTIFICATION

I, Dayna C. Brown, Secretary and Clerk of the Federal Election Commission,  
do hereby certify that on October 04, 2017 the Commission took the following  
actions on the Administrative Fine Program – Final Determination Recommendation  
for the 2017 April Quarterly Report as recommended in the Reports Analysis  
Division's Memorandum dated September 25, 2017, on the following committees:

AF#3329 Decided by a vote of 5-0 to: (1) make a final determination that FIORE  
FOR CONGRESS, and SCHULEIN, ANDREA in her official capacity as treasurer,  
violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a) and assess the final civil money penalty so indicated; (2)  
send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Goodman, Hunter, Petersen, Walther, and  
Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#3330 Decided by a vote of 5-0 to: (1) make a final determination that TAYLOR  
GRIFFIN FOR CONGRESS, and GRIFFIN, TAYLOR in his official capacity as  
treasurer, violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a) and assess the final civil money penalty so  
indicated; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Goodman, Hunter, Petersen,  
Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

Attest:

October 4, 2017  
Date

Dayna C. Brown  
Dayna C. Brown  
Secretary and Clerk of the Commission



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

October 4, 2017

Taylor Griffin, in official capacity as Treasurer  
Taylor Griffin for Congress  
P.O. Box 3451  
New Bern, NC 28564

C00581314  
AF#: 3330

Dear Mr. Griffin:

On June 14, 2017, the Federal Election Commission ("the Commission") found reason to believe ("RTB") that Taylor Griffin for Congress and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a) for filing late or failing to file the 2017 April Quarterly Report. By letter dated June 15, 2017, the Commission notified you of the RTB finding and the civil money penalty calculated at the RTB stage to be \$6,252 in accordance with the schedule of penalties at 11 CFR § 111.43. Within forty (40) days of the FEC's RTB finding, you, as treasurer, were required to either transmit payment of the calculated civil money penalty or submit a written response challenging either the RTB finding or the calculated civil money penalty. You must also file the 2017 April Quarterly Report if you have not already done so.

The FEC did not receive payment of the calculated civil money penalty or a written response within the time permitted. The FEC made a final determination on October 4, 2017 that Taylor Griffin for Congress and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a) and assessed a civil money penalty in the amount of \$6,252 in accordance with 11 CFR § 111.43. The civil money penalty is based on these factors:

Election Sensitivity of Report: Not Election Sensitive  
Level of Activity: \$119,588  
Number of Days Late: Not Filed  
Number of Previous Civil Money Penalties Assessed: 1

At this juncture, the following courses of action are available to you:

**1. If You Choose to Appeal the Final Determination and/or Civil Money Penalty**

If you choose to appeal the final determination, you should submit a written petition, within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter, to the U.S. District Court for the district in which the committee or you reside, or transact business, requesting that the final determination be modified or set aside. See 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(4)(C)(iii). Your failure to raise an argument in

a timely fashion during the administrative process shall be deemed a waiver of the respondents' right to present such argument in a petition to the district court under 52 U.S.C. § 30109. 11 CFR § 111.38.

## **2. If You Choose Not to Pay the Civil Money Penalty and Not to Appeal**

Unpaid civil money penalties assessed through the Administrative Fine regulations will be subject to the Debt Collection Act of 1982 ("DCA") as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 ("DCIA"), 31 U.S.C. § 3701 *et seq.* If you do not pay this debt within thirty (30) days (or file a written petition to a federal district court - see below), the Commission will transfer the debt to the U.S. Department of the Treasury ("Treasury") for collection. Within five (5) days of the transfer to Treasury, Treasury will contact you to request payment. Treasury currently charges a fee of 28% of the civil money penalty amount for its collection services. The fee will be added to the amount of the civil money penalty that you owe. Should Treasury's attempts fail, Treasury will refer the debt to a private collection agency ("PCA"). If the debt remains unpaid, Treasury may recommend that the Commission refer the matter to the Department of Justice for litigation.

Actions which may be taken to enforce recovery of a delinquent debt by Treasury may also include: (1) offset of any payments, which the debtor is due, including tax refunds and salary; (2) referral of the debt to agency counsel for litigation; (3) reporting of the debt to a credit bureau; (4) administrative wage garnishment; and (5) reporting of the debt, if discharged, to the IRS as potential taxable income. In addition, under the provisions of DCIA and other statutes applicable to the FEC, the debtor may be subject to the assessment of other statutory interest, penalties, and administrative costs.

In accordance with the DCIA, at your request, the agency will offer you the opportunity to inspect and copy records relating to the debt, the opportunity for a review of the debt, and the opportunity to enter into a written repayment agreement.

## **3. If You Choose to Pay the Civil Money Penalty**

If you should decide to pay the civil money penalty, follow the payment instructions on page 4 of this letter. You should make payment within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter.

## **NOTICE REGARDING PARTIAL PAYMENTS AND SETTLEMENT OFFERS**

### **4. Partial Payments**

If you make a payment in an amount less than the civil money penalty, the amount of your partial payment will be credited towards the full civil money penalty that the Commission assessed upon making a final determination.

### **5. Settlement Offers**

Any offer to settle or compromise a debt owed to the Commission, including a payment in an amount less than the civil money penalty assessed or any restrictive endorsements contained on your check or money order or proposed in correspondence transmitted with your check or money order, will be rejected. Acceptance and deposit or cashing of such a restricted payment does not constitute acceptance of the settlement offer. Payments containing restrictive

The confidentiality provisions at 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(12) no longer apply and this matter is now public. Pursuant to 11 CFR §§ 111.42(b) and 111.20(c), the file will be placed on the public record within thirty (30) days from the date of this notification.

If you have any questions regarding the payment of the civil money penalty, please contact Ben Holly at Federal Election Commission, 999 E St., NW, Washington, DC 20463, or our toll free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt, press 5) or (202) 694-1130.

**On behalf of the Commission,**

Storer Swathin

**Steven T. Walther**  
**Chair**



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**ADMINISTRATIVE FINE PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS**

In accordance with the schedule of penalties at 11 CFR § 111.43, the civil money penalty is \$6,252 for the 2017 April Quarterly Report. The payment is due within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

You may remit payment by ACH withdrawal from your bank account, or by debit or credit card through Pay.gov, the federal government's secure portal for online collections. Visit [www.fec.gov/af/pay.shtml](http://www.fec.gov/af/pay.shtml) to be directed to Pay.gov's Administrative Fine Program Payment form.

This penalty may also be paid by check or money order made payable to the Federal Election Commission. It should be sent by mail to:

Federal Election Commission  
PO Box 979058  
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

If you choose to send your payment by courier or overnight delivery, please send to:

U.S. Bank - Government Lockbox  
FEC #979058  
1005 Convention Plaza  
Attn: Government Lockbox, SL-MO-C2GL  
St. Louis, MO 63101

**PAYMENTS BY PERSONAL CHECK**

Personal checks will be converted into electronic funds transfers (EFTs). Your account will be electronically debited for the amount on the check, usually within 24 hours, and the debit will appear on your regular statement. We will destroy your original check and keep a copy of it. In case the EFT cannot be processed for technical reasons, you authorize us to process the copy in lieu of the original check. Should the EFT not be completed because of insufficient funds, we may try to make the transfer twice.

**PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN THE PORTION BELOW WITH YOUR PAYMENT.**

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FOR: Taylor Griffin for Congress

FEC ID#: C00581314

AF#: 3330

PAYMENT AMOUNT DUE: \$6,252

THIS IS THE END OF ADMINISTRATIVE FINE CASE # 3330

**Winn-Dixie**